

# SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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July 2, 2009

**TO:** Commissioners and Alternates  
**FROM:** Will Travis, Executive Director (415/352-3653 [travis@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:travis@bcdc.ca.gov))  
**SUBJECT:** **Status Report on the Commission's Strategic Plan**  
(For Commission consideration on July 16, 2009)

## Summary and Recommendation

On October 2, 2008, the Commission adopted an updated strategic plan and directed the staff to provide monthly reports on the progress being made in achieving the plan's objectives so the Commission can determine whether any revisions in the plan are necessary and whether to take further action to achieve the plan's goals and objectives. **The next annual workshop to update this plan will be held on September 17, 2009.**

## Strategic Plan Elements

- Mission Statement** The Bay Conservation and Development Commission is dedicated to the protection and enhancement of San Francisco Bay and the Suisun Marsh and to the encouragement of their responsible use.
- Vision Statement** A cleaner, healthier, vibrant Bay that is more accessible to the public.
- Core Values**
- Effective, timely and responsive communication.
  - Excellence in staff, process and Commission decision-making.
  - Integrity, honesty, transparency, adherence to the law and fairness in our process and consideration of all viewpoints.
  - Leadership and devotion to the protection and the enhancement of the Bay.
  - Open, public process.
  - Mutual trust and respect among staff, Commissioners, our partners and the public.
  - Partnerships with other agencies and groups.
- Ongoing Goals**
- Improve public awareness of the Bay and Suisun Marsh and the role of BCDC.
  - Maintain an active enforcement program.
  - Maximize public access where compatible with resource protection.
  - Prevent unnecessary Bay fill and enlarge the Bay where appropriate.
  - Promote optimum and sustainable use and management of Bay resources.
  - Recognize the importance of the Bay in advancing the economic prosperity of the Bay region.
  - Support environmental justice in Commission decisions.
- Three-Year Goals**
- Improve and implement BCDC's program for protection, use and restoration of Bay resources.
  - Improve coordination and interaction with other organizations to improve the Bay.
  - Improve public access to the Bay and the Suisun Marsh.
  - Play an integral role in developing and implementing a regional proactive strategy for dealing with global climate change.



*Making San Francisco Bay Better*

## Goals, Objectives and Status

**THREE-YEAR GOAL: Improve and implement BCDC's program for protection, use and restoration of Bay resources.**

Objectives	Status
<p>1. <b>Delta Planning.</b> By December 31, 2008, and quarterly thereafter, the staff will report to the Commission on the initiatives underway and participate in the Delta planning process in a manner that will address the Commission's objectives.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Steve Goldbeck and Jessica Hamburger.</p> <p><b>This objective is being accomplished on an ongoing basis.</b></p> <p>The Commission received the first report in advance of a January 15, 2009 briefing on the Delta Vision Strategic Plan, the second report in advance of an April 2, 2009 briefing on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, and the third on June 19, 2009.</p>
<p>2. <b>Advisory Committees.</b> By June 30, 2009, the staff will provide the Commission with an analysis of the optimal future roles and functions of the Citizens Advisory Committee and Science Advisory Committee, with recommendations on the best committee membership to fulfill the identified roles and functions, and a draft implementation plan for a revitalized Citizens Advisory Committee and Science Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Caitlin Sweeney and Steve Goldbeck.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The required analysis was provided to the Commission on July 2, 2009 for consideration at the Commission's July 16, 2009 meeting.</p>
<p>3. <b>Sediment Management.</b> By August 31, 2009, the staff will prepare a regional sediment management program for San Francisco Bay that will address needed research and policy.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Steve Goldbeck and Brenda Goeden.</p> <p>A federal grant has been awarded to cover part of the cost of preparing the sediment management program; however, there has been a delay in the release of the funds. Therefore, it will probably be necessary to change the deadline for the completion of this objective.</p>
<p>4. <b>Restoration Projects.</b> By November 30, 2009, if adequate funding is available, the staff will provide the Commission with a briefing on the restoration projects that BCDC has permitted and lessons learned.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Bob Batha.</p> <p>This briefing will incorporate information that will be presented at the biennial State of the Estuary conference being held in early October and will be held by the established deadline for this objective.</p>

**THREE-YEAR GOAL: Improve coordination and interaction with other organizations to improve the Bay.**

Objectives	Status
<p>1. <b>Regional Issue Reports.</b> By January 31, 2009, and quarterly thereafter, the staff will provide reports to the Commission on actions taken by regional committees (e.g., JPC, RAPC, RPC) on regional issues, including, but not limited to, global climate change.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Joe LaClair and Lindy Lowe.</p> <p><b>This objective will be accomplished on an ongoing basis.</b></p> <p>The Commission received the first three requested reports on January 9, 2009, April 10, 2009 and July 10, 2009.</p>
<p>2. <b>Regional Committees.</b> By May 31, 2009, the staff will provide a briefing(s) to the Commission on the work of regional committees and bodies that includes the reason BCDC is involved and how they advance BCDC's objectives.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Joe LaClair and Lindy Lowe.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The required briefing was provided to the Commission on May 7, 2009.</p>
<p>3. <b>Joint Policy Committee.</b> By June 30, 2009, the staff will report to the Commission on the role that the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Coastal Conservancy could play in the Joint Policy Committee and the FOCUS Program.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Joe LaClair.</p> <p>This objective will probably be completed by the established deadline.</p>
<p>4. <b>Public Awareness.</b> By August 31, 2009, the staff will develop and present a strategy to the Commission to take advantage of NGO relationships to increase public involvement and awareness in the Commission's work on regional initiatives.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Lindy Lowe.</p> <p>This objective will probably be completed by the established deadline.</p>
<p>5. <b>Regional Planning Funding.</b> By September 30, 2009, the staff will seek additional funding to support BCDC's participation in regional partnerships (e.g., adaptation planning for transportation infrastructure).</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Joe LaClair.</p> <p>The State of California's fiscal crisis makes it unlikely that funding will be available for this project. <b>Therefore, this objective should be dropped from the current strategic plan.</b></p>

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| <p>6. <b>Bay Planning Coalition Partnership.</b> By August 31, 2009, the staff working with the Bay Planning Coalition will present for the Commission's consideration a strategy for addressing concerns that existing planning policies and criteria for government decision-making may not be adequate to protect, support and expand waterfront industrial, marine transportation, goods movement infrastructure, environmental and recreational facilities and other water-dependent uses in a manner that is compatible with residential and commercial land uses on the waterfront.</p> | <p>The lead staff member for this objective is Will Travis.</p> <p>This project has been initiated, three meetings with members of the Bay Planning Coalition, and BCDC's staff have been held, and BCDC's executive director participated on a panel on this issue at the Bay Planning Coalition's annual decision-makers conference on April 22, 2009. A brief report summarizing the results of the deliberations on this issue can be completed by the established deadline.</p> |
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**THREE-YEAR GOAL: Improve public access to the Bay and the Suisun Marsh.**

Objectives	Status
<p>1. <b>Public Access Advisory Committee.</b> By June 30, 2009, the staff will evaluate the feasibility of a Public Access Citizens Advisory Committee focused on public access issues and report the results to the Commission.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Caitlin Sweeney.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The required analysis was provided to the Commission on July 2, 2009 for consideration at the Commission's July 16, 2009 meeting.</p>
<p>2. <b>Public Access Gaps.</b> By September 30, 2009, the staff, working with Bay Trail staff and other agencies, will assemble current information regarding gaps in shoreline public access to be used in a public access map.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Brad McCrea.</p> <p>This objective will probably be completed by the established deadline.</p>
<p>3. <b>Public Access Map.</b> By September 30, 2009, the staff, working with Bay Trail staff and other agencies, will seek funding for a new or updated public access map.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Joe LaClair.</p> <p>The State of California's fiscal crisis makes it unlikely that funding will be available for this project. <b>Therefore, this objective should be dropped from the current strategic plan.</b></p>

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**THREE-YEAR GOAL:** Play an integral role in developing and implementing a regional proactive strategy for dealing with global climate change.

Objectives	Status
<p>1. <b>Inundation Maps.</b> By June 30, 2009, the staff will produce and present to the Commission new shoreline inundation maps that can be used for planning purposes.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Joe LaClair and Tim Doherty.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>Using inundation data generated by the U.S. Geological Survey, new maps showing areas vulnerable to inundation from sea level rise were completed and released on April 7, 2009 and posted on BCDC's website.</p>
<p>2. <b>Climate Change Presentations.</b> By December 31, 2008, the staff will provide at least six climate change presentations live to local governments, with videotaping of the presentation for cable networks and other distribution opportunities.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Will Travis and Steve Goldbeck.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>Live presentations have been provided to about 20 local governments and 60 other organizations in the Bay Area, and Commission member Susan Adams arranged for a videotape of the presentation that was made to the Marin County Board of Supervisors to broadcast on the County's Web site. There is also a link to the presentation on BCDC's Web site.</p>
<p>3. <b>Sea Level Rise Legislation.</b> By September 30, 2009, the staff will provide for the Commission's consideration draft language for State legislation that will empower, fund and direct the Commission to prepare a sea level rise adaptation strategy for the San Francisco Bay and the Suisun Marsh that identifies: (a) the most significant resources that must be protected from inundation; (b) those areas that are inappropriate for protection from inundation; and (c) those areas appropriate for wetland restoration or enhancement.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Steve Goldbeck.</p> <p>Work is underway on this project, discussions are being held with legislative staff and other stakeholders on possible legislation. Therefore, this objective will probably be completed by the established deadline.</p>
<p>4. <b>Habitat Protection.</b> By May 31, 2009, the staff will report to the Commission on the issues of habitat preservation and protection in relation to adaptive strategies dealing with sea level rise.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Joe LaClair and Adam Parris.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The requested information was incorporated into the background report that serves as the basis of possible amendments of the Bay Plan to address climate change. The report was released on April 7, 2009.</p>

<p>5. <b>Legal Analysis.</b> By March 31, 2009, the staff will complete a legal analysis of property rights and "takings" issues and the use of the public trust doctrine related to adaptive strategies.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Tim Eichenberg.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The analysis was completed and presented to the Commission on March 5, 2009.</p>
<p>6. <b>Bay Plan Policies.</b> By May 31, 2009, the staff will present to the Commission a report on the impacts of sea level rise in the Bay and propose changes to the Bay Plan for the Commission's consideration.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Leslie Lacko.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>The requested report was released on April 7, 2009, and the Commission held its first public hearing on the proposed Bay Plan changes on May 7, 2009.</p>
<p>7. <b>Presentation Webcast.</b> March 31, 2009, if adequate funding is available, the staff will webcast BCDC's climate change presentation(s).</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Mamie Lai.</p> <p><b>This objective has been accomplished.</b></p> <p>There is a link on BCDC's Web site to a videotape of BCDC's climate change presentation that was made to the Marin County Board of Supervisors.</p>
<p>8. <b>Design Competition.</b> By September 30, 2009, if adequate funding is available, the staff will publicize the most innovative, effective strategies for adapting the impacts of sea level rise on shoreline resources and communities that have emerged from a 2009 international design competition sponsored by BCDC.</p>	<p>The lead staff member for this objective is Brad McCrea and Rafael Montes.</p> <p>A federal grant has been awarded to support the design competition. Therefore, this objective will probably be accomplished by the established deadline.</p>
<p>9. <b>Local Assistance.</b> By September 30, 2009, the staff will develop strategies that local governments can use in their planning for adapting to sea level rise and associated storm impacts.</p>	<p>The lead staff members for this objective are Steve Goldbeck and Joe LaClair.</p> <p>This work is underway so this objective can probably be accomplished by the established deadline.</p>